

Date Mailed March 18, 1998

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of the City of Augusta, Eau Claire County,
as a Regulated Water and Sewer Public Utility,
for Authority to Separate the Water and Sewer
Utility and to Form a Separate Sewerage Department

270-SA-100

**NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION, TELEPHONIC
HEARING, AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

The City of Augusta (city/applicant), Eau Claire County, as a regulated water and sewer public utility, filed an application on February 17, 1998, with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (Commission) for authority to separate its water and sewer utility into a surviving water utility and a separate sewerage department.

The city is requesting permission to form a separate sewerage department for greater local control over sewer rates. The city would like this control to make more timely rate adjustments as the need arises.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission will investigate this matter and hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 2, 1998, at 9:30 a.m. This will be a telephonic hearing involving two sites. The applicant will provide a room for customer participation in the Augusta City Hall, 145 West Lincoln Street, Augusta, Wisconsin 54722. Customers may call Sandra L. Boettcher, City Clerk-Treasurer at (715) 286-2555 for further details on the location of the hearing room. This room is accessible to people in wheelchairs. Commission staff will participate from the Public Service Commission Office Building at 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin 53705, in the Lake Superior room. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor entrance (lobby). Parking for people with disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations should contact Richard Teslaw, General Services Assistant, at (608) 267-9766.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this matter is deemed to be a Class 1 proceeding. See s. 227.01(3)(a), Stats.

This is a Type III action under s. PSC 4.10 (3), Wis. Adm. Code. No unusual circumstances suggesting the likelihood of significant environmental consequences have come to the Commission's attention. Neither an environmental impact statement under s. 1.11, Stats., nor an environmental assessment is required.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Commission deems it necessary in order to carry out its duties herein to investigate the books, accounts, practices and activities of the applicant, as a

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regulated water and sewer public utility. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant, as a regulated water and sewer public utility, in accordance with the provisions of s. 196.85, Stats., and ch. PSC 5, Wis. Adm. Code.

If there are any questions regarding the hearing scheduled in this notice, please call Nancy Anthony, Examining Division, at (608) 266-1261.

Other questions concerning this matter should be directed to Peter K. Feneht, P.E., Division of Water, Compliance and Consumer Affairs, at (608) 266-5614.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

For the Commission.

Joyce A. Narveson, Administrator
Division of Water, Compliance and Consumer Affairs

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